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*Serving Our Veterans Through Clearer Rules*

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Abstract by Melissa Sutton

The article discusses the reorganizing and rewriting by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) of its regulations for all compensation and pension benefit programs. The regulations are being translated into plain language to make the benefit programs easier for veterans to understand. The article explores this project which was initiated by Secretary Anthony J. Principi shortly after he took office in 2001.

Part I of the article discusses phase one of the project, which was to research and reorganize the regulations. Part II of the article outlines the steps taken to rewrite the regulations' titles and text. Part III of the article details the publishing of the rewritten regulations. The article concludes that although the first portion of the rewritten regulations were published on January 30, 2004, the fulfillment of the twenty-year-old promise to produce better regulations won't be achieved until the new regulations are completely implemented.